

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 281786

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE

APPROVED BY: ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE

S/S-O:LRFLEISCHER

-----101434 240723Z /12

O 240637Z NOV 77 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE 0459

AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 281786

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM KINGSTON NOV 22:

QUOTE S E C R E T KINGSTON 6995

NODIS

FOR ACTING SECRETARY HABIB

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PBOR, GT, UK, BH, JM

SUBJECT: BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS

REFERENCE: A. KINGSTON 6984 B. STATE 278703

1. PGIME MINISTER'S PERMANENT SECRETARY, GORDON WELLS,

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TELEPHONED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIS AFTERNOON'S (NOVEMBER 22) MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER MANLEY AND PREMIER PRICE TO ADVISE AS FOLLOWS: MANLEY CONVEYED (WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION TO BRITISH OR TO US) CONSIDERATIONS CITED REFTEL (B) ARGUING FOR PROMPT SETTLEMENT BELIZE QUESTION, EVEN SHOULD THIS REQUIRE MINOR TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS TO GUATEMALA. HOWEVER, MANLEY ALSO MADE CLEAR IT IS THE

JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT HOW PRICE AND BELIZE HANDLE THIS QUESTION IS VERY MUCH A MATTER FOR BELIZE TO DECIDE.

2. ACCORDING TO WELLS, PRICE SAID THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT TO ANY TERRITORIAL CONCESSION (APPARENTLY WSIDE FROM MINOR STRAIGHTENING OUT OF THE WESTERN BOUNDARY) OWING TO HIS OWN STRONG FEELINGS BUT ALSO BECAUSE ANY TERRITORIAL CONCESSION WOULD CAUSE HIM AN UNACCEPTABLE DEGREE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. MOREOVER, PRICE CLAIMED THAT A BASIC POLITICAL PLANK OF HIS PARTY HAS ALWAYS BEEN "NOT AN INCH OF TERRITORY" CAN BE CEDED TO GUATEMALA.

3. PRICE ALSO RAISED AS ANOTHER CONSIDERATION THAT A TERRITORIAL CONCESSION TO GUATEMALA WOULD HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS VIS-A-VIS OTHER BOUNDARY DISPUTES ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA. PRICE ARGUED THAT, LIKE IN AFRICA, ANY TAMPERING WITH BOUNDARIES IN ONE PLACE CAN RESULT IN AN ENDLESS SERIES OF ACTIVE BOUNDARY PROBLEMS ELSEWHERE.

4. NONE THE LESS, WELLS SAID, PRICE VERY MUCH APPRECIATES THE NEED TO MOVE AS QUICKLY TOWARD A SETTLEMENT AS POSSIBLE. WELLS DID NOT, HOWEVER, CONVEY ANY THOUGHTS OR HOPES VIS-A-VIS SPECIFIC COMPROMISE POSSIBILITIES.

5. WELLS SAYS THAT PRICE PROBABLY WILL RETURN TO BELIZE  
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TOMORROW.

6. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS AS APPROPRIATE TO OTHER INTERESTED ADDRESSEES. IRVING UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009